

PRIORITY

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FM DIRECTOR, FBI

TO WHITE HOUSE SITUATION ROOM

DIRECTOR, CIA

SECRETARY OF STATE

TOP SECRET NO FOREIGN DISSEMINATION/NO DISSEMINATION ABROAD

CURRENT SOVIET VIEW OF SOVIET-AMERICAN RELATIONS INTERNAL
SECURITY-RUSSIA.ALL PARAGRAPHS HEREIN ARE CLASSIFIED TOP SECRET-NO FOREIGN
DISSEMINATION/NO DISSEMINATION ABROAD.

DURING DECEMBER, 1976, A SOURCE WHO HAS FURNISHED RELIABLE
INFORMATION IN THE PAST, ADVISED THAT THE LEADERSHIP OF THE
COMMUNIST PARTY, USA (CPUSA), AN ARM OF THE INTERNATIONAL
COMMUNIST MOVEMENT DOMINATED BY THE SOVIET UNION, RECENTLY
RECEIVED A BRIEFING ON INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS FROM THE LEADERSHIP
OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF THE SOVIET UNION (CPSU). THIS
BRIEFING IS ATTRIBUTED TO BORIS N. PONOMAREV, ALTERNATE MEMBER
OF THE POLITICAL BUREAU (PS) AND A SECRETARY OF THE CENTRAL
ABROAD
COMMITTEE, CPSU, AND OTHER MEMBERS OF THE SOVIET PARTY
LEADERSHIP.

FIRST OF ALL, THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP WAS VERY CONCERNED
OVER THE LOSS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION BY PRESIDENT GERALD
FORD, AND WAS VERY PESSIMISTIC ABOUT THE FUTURE COURSE OF
SOVIET-AMERICAN NEGOTIATIONS AND RELATIONS. HOWEVER, THE SOVIET
LEADERSHIP WAS SOMEWHAT REASSURED BY AN ANALYSIS BY THE CPUSA
THAT THIS WAS AN OVERLY PESSIMISTIC VIEW AND THAT THERE WILL
PROBABLY NOT BE ANY BASIC CHANGES IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY
BECAUSE THE CLASS INTERESTS OF THE RULING CLASS IN THE US HAVE
NOT CHANGED MERELY BECAUSE OF A CHANGE IN ADMINISTRATIONS.
THE CPSU LEADERSHIP HAD RECEIVED AND HAD BEEN IMPRESSED BY
THE ANALYSIS OF GUS HALL, GENERAL SECRETARY OF THE CPUSA, IN
WHICH HE HAD PROCLAIMED THAT THE CARTER VICTORY WAS A VICTORY
FOR NEITHER THE RIGHT NOR THE LEFT. IN FACT, THE SOVIET LEADERS
WERE DISAPPOINTED THAT HALL HAD DECLINED AN INVITATION TO VISIT
THE SOVIET UNION AT THIS TIME IN ORDER TO BRIEF CPSU GENERAL
SECRETARY LEONID I. BREZHNEV ON THE INCOMING ADMINISTRATION;
HOWEVER, THEY UNDERSTOOD HALL'S EXPLANATION THAT FURTHER TIME
AND STUDY WAS NEEDED TO EXAMINE CARTER'S CABINET CHOICES, THE

***** WHSR COMMENT *****

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LEGISLATION HE WOULD SUBMIT TO CONGRESS, ETC. HALL IS EXPECTED
ABROAD
TO TRAVEL TO THE SOVIET UNION WITHIN A FEW MONTHS TIME, AT WHICH
TIME HE WILL GIVE THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP THE BENEFIT OF HIS
ANALYSIS OF THE NEW ADMINISTRATION.

THE ATTITUDE OF THE SOVIET UNION TOWARD THE NEW AMERICAN
ADMINISTRATION IS AS IT HAS STATED PUBLICLY BY BREZHNEV. THE
SOVIET UNION HAS A GENUINE DESIRE TO FURTHER DETENTE AND BETTER
RELATIONS WITH THE US AND WILL PERSIST IN EFFORTS TO OBTAIN
IF POSSIBLE, A REDUCTION OF ARMAMENTS BY BOTH SIDES. BUT THE
SOVIET UNION IS REALISTIC AND HAS NO ILLUSIONS. WHILE THE
US SEEMS TO BE DRAGGING ITS FEET RIGHT NOW, NEVERTHELESS THERE
ARE SOME GOOD AND HOPEFUL SIGNS. BUT THE SOVIET GOVERNMENT
BELIEVES THAT ONE OF THE FIRST POINTS FOR DISCUSSION WITH THE
CARTER ADMINISTRATION IS THE CONTROL OF STRATEGIC ARMAMENTS. THE
SOVIET UNION WILL TRY TO WORK WITH THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION
NO LESS THAN WITH PREVIOUS ADMINISTRATIONS.

A MAJOR CONCERN OF THE CPSU IS THE QUESTION OF EURO-
COMMUNISM AS SEEN IN THE POSITIONS OF SUCH PARTIES AS THE
COMMUNIST PARTIES OF FRANCE, ITALY, SPAIN AND GREAT BRITAIN. THIS
HAS BEEN REFLECTED IN THE EVALUATION OF THE RECENT BERLIN CONFERENCE
ABROAD

OF 20 EUROPEAN COMMUNIST PARTIES (ECP) AS A NEW THRESHOLD
OF PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM SHOWN BY THE NEW RECOGNITION
OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF CPS. A FURTHER NEGATIVE TREND OF THAT
CONFERENCE HAS BEEN THE DEPARTURE BY SOME PARTIES FROM
SOLIDARITY IN THE FACE OF THE COMMON ENEMY OF THE WORKING
CLASS. THESE NEGATIVE FEATURES AS EXPRESSED BY THE ABOVE
PARTIES ARE DANGEROUS NOT ONLY TO THE SOVIET UNION BUT TO THE
ENTIRE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNIST MOVEMENT. THE CONCEPT OF
EURO-COMMUNISM IS BEING PROPAGANDIZED AND USED FOR DIFFERENT
ENDS BY THE ENEMIES OF THE SOVIET UNION AND THE ENEMIES OF
COMMUNISM. NOT UNRELATED IS THE CAMPAIGN ABOUT DISSIDENTS
IN THE SOVIET UNION. IT IS QUITE CLEAR THAT THE CAMPAIGN ABOUT
DISSIDENCE IS A FORM OF REVENGE AND PART OF A COUNTERATTACK
AGAINST THE SOVIET UNION BY IMPERIALISM. UNFORTUNATELY, SOME
PARTIES ARE ON THE OTHER SIDE OF THE BARRICADES. THE CPSU HAS
ISSUED INSTRUCTIONS TO ALL ITS HIGHER ECHELONS THAT THE SOVIET
PARTY WILL NOT ENGAGE IN ANY POLEMICS ON THIS SUBJECT. NOW-
EVEN, IT IS IMPORTANT THAT ALL OTHER FRATERNAL PARTIES TAKE AN
ACTIVE PART IN THIS FIGHT AND THAT IS WHY THE CPSU APPRECIATES
ABROAD

THE CORRECT INTERNATIONALIST POSITION OF THE CPUSA IN ITS
STATEMENTS COMBATING THE FALSE POSITIONS OF SUCH PARTIES. THE
CPSU WILL FIGHT FOR SOLIDARITY OF THE WORLD MOVEMENT. THE MOST
DANGEROUS THING WOULD BE IF THE CPS IN THE CAPITALIST COUNTRIES
SEPARATE THEMSELVES FROM THOSE IN THE SOCIALIST COUNTRIES.
THIS SOURCE ALSO ADVISED THAT IT WAS LEARNED THAT THE RECENT
ADULATION ACCORDED TO LEONID I. BREZHNEV ON THE OCCASION OF

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HIS 75TH BIRTHDAY WAS BY NO MEANS A UNANIMOUS POSITION OF THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP. THERE WAS A SHARP STRUGGLE IN THE PB OF THE CPSU ON THIS SUBJECT. AMONG THOSE LEADING THE FIGHT IN FAVOR OF SUCH AN IMMODEST DEMONSTRATION WERE PB MEMBERS BUSLEY, KIRILENKO, USTINOV, AND ALTERNATE MEMBER PONOMAREV. ONE OF THE PURPOSES OF SUCH A CAMPAIGN WAS TO DEMONSTRATE TO THE WORLD THAT ALTHOUGH THERE ARE NUMEROUS CHANGES IN LEADERSHIP THROUGHOUT THE WORLD, SUCH AS IN THE US, WEST GERMANY, SWEDEN, ETC., THE SOVIET UNION HAS A UNITED LEADERSHIP UNDER BREZHNEV. IT MUST BE SAID, HOWEVER, THAT IN SOME GOOD COMMUNIST HOUSEHOLDS IN THE SOVIET UNION, THERE HAVE BEEN SERIOUS MISGIVINGS ABOUT THIS BUILDUP IN THE IMAGE OF BREZHNEV AND IF HE BEGINS TO GO THE WAY HE ABROAD THE CULT OF STALIN THERE COULD BE SERIOUS REPERCUSSIONS IN THAT COUNTRY.

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